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SPEECH

WORLD CONFERENCE ON LUNG HEALTH

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION

(AMERICAN THORACIC SOCIETY)

BOSTON, MA

MAY 21, 1990

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C. EVERETT KOOP, MD

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GREETINGS, ETC.

"A THOUSAND AMERICANS WILL STOP SMOKING TODAY. . . .

**THEIR FUNERALS WILL BE HELD WITHIN THE NEXT THREE OR
FOUR DAYS."**

**THAT'S THE WAY I HAVE STARTED A NUMBER OF LECTURES ON
SMOKING.**

IT GETS PEOPLE'S ATTENTION.

**WHY DO I FEEL I HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING DRAMATIC TO GET
THEIR ATTENTION?**

I SHOULDN'T HAVE TO.

**WHAT IS IT ABOUT TOBACCO THAT NUMBS THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE?**

**IF ANYTHING ELSE KILLED 390,000 OF OUR FELLOW-CITIZENS
EACH YEAR, THE PUBLIC WOULD DEMAND ACTION FROM OUR
GOVERNMENT.**

**INSTEAD, TOBACCO HAS, FROM THE BEGINNING, BEEN CODDLED
BY OUR GOVERNMENT.**

THIS DISTINGUISHED AUDIENCE KNOWS ABOUT THAT.

**AS A PHYSICIAN AND FORMER PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER, I DON'T
WANT TO RAISE YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE --OR MAKE YOUR
BLOOD BOIL-- BY REVIEWING THE SORRY STORY IN GREAT
DETAIL.**

**BUT IN A FEW WORDS, I'LL REMIND YOU THAT TOBACCO HAS
BEEN ASSOCIATED NOT ONLY WITH DISEASE AND DEATH, BUT
ALSO WITH MONEY.**

**THAT, OF COURSE IS THE REASON FOR ITS SPECIAL TREATMENT
AND FOR ITS INTERNATIONAL POWER.**

**TOBACCO WAS THE CASH CROP THAT FINANCED THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION --THOSE VIRGINIA PLANTERS FETCHED A GREATER
RETURN FOR TOBACCO LEAVES THAN DID THE HARDY NEW
ENGLANDERS WHO GREW PUMPKINS IN THE NEARBY FIELDS
AROUND BOSTON.**

CONGRESS HAS BEEN HELD HOSTAGE EVER SINCE.

**DESPITE THE SINISTER ASSOCIATIONS, FIRST WITH SLAVERY, AND
LATER WITH CANCER AND HEART DISEASE, AMERICAN TOBACCO
HAS ENJOYED GOVERNMENT PROTECTION.**

**TOBACCO MONEY EXPLAINS THE RELUCTANCE OF CONGRESS TO
TOLERATE ANY REGULATION OF TOBACCO, SO IT HAS BEEN
DECLARED TO BE NEITHER A FOOD, NOR A DRUG, NOR A
COSMETIC:**

A LOOSE CANNON ON THE DECK OF SPACESHIP EARTH.

ANY SPEECH ON SMOKING BECOMES A "GOOD NEWS/BAD NEWS" STORY.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT WE ARE --AT LAST-- WINNING THE WAR AGAINST TOBACCO.

THE BAD NEWS IS THAT THERE ARE MANY BATTLES STILL TO FIGHT.

OF PRIMARY CONCERN TO US TODAY IS THAT --RIGHT NOW-- THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY IS WINNING THOSE BATTLES OVERSEAS. WE NEED TO COMBAT THEM BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD.

**IT IS A SPECIAL PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE WITH YOU TODAY,
BECAUSE IT BRINGS BACK THE MEMORY OF A VERY SPECIAL DAY
FOR ME. AND I HOPE IT HAS BECOME A SPECIAL DAY FOR ALL
WHO WORK TO BREAK THE DEATH-GRIP THAT THE TOBACCO
INDUSTRY HAS ON SO MANY LIVES AROUND THE WORLD.**

**IT WAS 6 YEARS AGO, IN 1984, AT THE MEETING OF THE
AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION AND THE AMERICAN THORACIC
SOCIETY IN MIAMI THAT I FIRST CALLED FOR A SMOKE-FREE
SOCIETY IN AMERICA BY THE YEAR 2000.**

**AT THAT TIME I SAID VERY CLEARLY THAT I WASN'T PROPOSING
ANOTHER GOVERNMENT PROGRAM. THIS WAS NOT GOING TO BE
A PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE INITIATIVE...NOR WAS THIS GOING TO
BE ANOTHER PET PROJECT OF THE U.S. SURGEON GENERAL.**

**INSTEAD, I RAISED THE IDEA AS A CALL...A CALL FROM THE
SURGEON GENERAL TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY.**

YOU MAY RECALL THAT I DESIGNATED CERTAIN GROUPS TO DO CERTAIN THINGS: THE BOY SCOUTS, THE CAMPFIRE GIRLS, RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS, THE COALITION ON SMOKING OR HEALTH.

IN THE YEARS SINCE, EACH GROUP HAS RESPONDED, AND RESPONDED GENEROUSLY.

**THE CALL FOR A SMOKE-FREE SOCIETY HAS BEEN
STRENGTHENED BY THE RECEPTION AFFORDED A NUMBER OF
SURGEON GENERAL'S REPORTS ON SMOKING.
IN PARTICULAR, THE SURGEON GENERAL'S REPORTS ON
INVOLUNTARY SMOKING, AND ON NICOTINE ADDICTION WORKED
TOGETHER TO GIVE THE MILITANT ANTI-SMOKERS NEW AND
POWERFUL WEAPONS.
THE NONSMOKER WAS MERELY IRRITATED AT FIRST...THEN
BECAME ANNOYED...AND THEN TURNED MILITANT.**

STUDIES INDICATING THAT PASSIVE SMOKING LED TO 46,000 DEATHS ANNUALLY (3,000 FROM LUNG CANCER, 11,000 FROM OTHER CANCERS, 32,000 FROM HEART DISEASE) MADE THE NON-SMOKER MILITANT ...AND SUCCESSFUL IN ACHIEVING CHANGES IN SOCIAL CUSTOMS AND IN LOCAL AND STATE LAW.

AS OF LAST YEAR MORE THAN 250 LOCAL COMMUNITIES HAD ADOPTED REGULATIONS RESTRICTING SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES, A THREE-FOLD INCREASE IN THREE YEARS.

A MOST SATISFYING VICTORY IS THE AIRLINE SMOKING BAN
THAT BECAME EFFECTIVE LAST WINTER.

OF THE 16,000 DAILY FLIGHTS IN THE USA, ONLY 28 SLIP
THROUGH THE BAN, ALLOWING SMOKERS TO FOUL THE AIR.
AND NORTHWEST AIRLINES VOLUNTARILY KEEPS THE CABIN AIR
SMOKE-FREE ALL THE WAY TO HAWAII. OTHER AIRLINES --
ALASKA, DELTA, EASTERN, AND U.S. AIR-- HAVE ALSO EXTENDED
THE BAN BEYOND THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW.

ANECDOTE RE AIR CANADA

US AIRLINES — JAKE EPP → AIR CANADA
VOLUNTEERS AND FLIGHT ATTENDANTS
COTININE — BEFORE, DURING, AFTER, + 24 HOURS AFTER
PLACE IN CABIN NOT IMPORTANT
SIGNIFICANT ELEVATION COTININE
STAYED WITH NON-SMOKER LONGER
AFTER CALLED WORST

**AND REMEMBER, LAST NOVEMBER A TOUGH LOCAL SMOKING
CONTROL ORDINANCE WAS APPROVED BY THE VOTERS IN
GREENSBORO, N.C. , IN SPITE OF HEAVY OPPOSITION BY
TOBACCO COMPANIES.**

**IF THE TOBACCO COMPANIES CAN BE BEATEN IN NORTH
CAROLINA, THEY CAN BE BEATEN ANYWHERE!**

SMOKING HABITS HAVE CHANGED.

**FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, AT MEDICAL MEETINGS, WHERE DOCTORS
SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER, THE AIR WAS BLUE WITH SMOKE.**

**NOW YOU RARELY SEE A PHYSICIAN SMOKE;
THE ONLY SMOKE AT MEDICAL MEETINGS COMES FROM THE
SPOUSES.**

**IN 1964, BEFORE THE FIRST SURGEON GENERAL'S' REPORT ON
SMOKING, OVER HALF OF ADULT AMERICANS SMOKED.**

**WHEN I BECAME SURGEON GENERAL IN 1981, THE NUMBER HAD
DECLINED TO 33 PERCENT.**

**WHEN I LEFT OFFICE 8 YEARS LATER, THE NUMBER OF AMERICAN
SMOKERS HAD SHRUNK EVEN MORE, TO 26 PERCENT.**

**FEW THINGS GIVE ME AS MUCH SATISFACTION AS THAT
DRAMATIC DECREASE, FROM 33 PERCENT TO 26 PERCENT.**

**AND IT NOW APPEARS THAT DURING MY LAST YEAR IN OFFICE,
SMOKING DROPPED ANOTHER ALMOST 5 PERCENT.**

**BETWEEN 1964 AND 1985 APPROXIMATELY THREE-QUARTERS OF A
MILLION SMOKING-RELATED DEATHS WERE AVOIDED OR
POSTPONED BY DECISIONS TO QUIT OR NOT TO START SMOKING.**

**EACH POSTPONED DEATH REPRESENTED AN AVERAGE GAIN OF 2
DECADES OF LIFE EXPECTANCY.**

**NEARLY HALF OF ALL LIVING ADULTS WHO HAVE EVER SMOKED
HAVE QUIT.**

**WITH THIS BACKGROUND, THE SMOKE-FREE SOCIETY THAT I
FIRST CALLED FOR AS I STOOD BEFORE YOU IN 1984 IS AN IDEA
WHOSE TIME HAS COME.**

YOU'VE SEEN THE IMPACT.

**HOSPITAL STAFFS ARE DEMANDING THAT THEIR FACILITIES BE
MADE SMOKE-FREE.**

**WORKING PEOPLE ARE ASKING FOR SMOKE-FREE
ENVIRONMENTS WHERE THEY WORK.**

**PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE ARE HANGING THOSE "THANK YOU FOR
NOT SMOKING SIGNS" IN THEIR WAITING ROOMS.**

**AND HOUSEHOLDERS ARE TACKING UP THE SAME SIGN OVER
THEIR FRONT DOORBELLS.**

I CANNOT NEGLECT THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SAY THAT THE COOPERATIVE EFFORTS OF THE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION, THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION, THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY IN WORKING TOWARD A CURRICULUM AGAINST SMOKING THAT WOULD GRADUATE A HIGH SCHOOL CLASS IN THE YEAR 2000 SMOKE-FREE HAS BEEN EXTRAORDINARILY REWARDING.

I'VE PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAMS FOR THE FIRST AND SECOND GRADES, AND I'M VERY ENCOURAGED ABOUT HOW MUCH THESE YOUNGSTERS KNOW, AND HOW SERIOUSLY THEY TAKE THEIR PLEDGE TO TURN THEIR BACKS ON ANYONE WHO OFFERS THEM A CIGARETTE, NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

ANECDOTE - HAWAII + GOVERNOR _____ WIFE

**SO, I WANTED TO START OUT WITH THE GOOD NEWS, REMINDING
US OF HOW FAR WE HAVE COME, REMINDING US OF BATTLES
WON.**

BUT THERE IS STILL A LONG WAY TO GO.

THERE ARE STILL BATTLES TO BE FOUGHT.

THERE IS STILL PLENTY OF BAD NEWS.

**EVEN IN THE UNITED STATES, EVEN WITH ALL THE PROGRESS WE
HAVE MADE, SMOKING IS STILL THE SINGLE MOST DEADLY
"HABIT" ... ASSOCIATED WITH HIGHER MORTALITY AND ILLNESS
THAN DRUGS, AUTOMOBILES, AND AIDS COMBINED.**

**ALL THE AIDS PATIENTS WHO HAVE DIED SINCE WE KNEW ABOUT
THE DISEASE, 9 YEARS, EQUALS THE SMOKING DEATHS OF ONLY
4 MONTHS.**

**THE NUMBERS OF DEATHS ANNUALLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO
SMOKING HAVE RISEN WITH EACH SURGEON GENERAL'S REPORT.**

**SO, EVEN THOUGH WE'VE MADE PROGRESS, AS A SOCIETY WE'RE
STILL BURDENED WITH THE TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF
SUFFERING AND HARDSHIP THAT GOES ALONG WITH ALL THESE
DEATHS...**

**THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA ARE STILL BURDENED WITH THE
ECONOMICS OF SMOKING.**

**WE STILL HAVE TO COME UP WITH THE MONEY TO PAY THE
ANNUAL SMOKING-AND-HEALTH BILL OF \$39 BILLION.**

**THAT'S FOR PERSONNEL AND MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY AND
INSURANCE AND LOST WAGES...ALL THE REAL, BASIC COSTS
LEVELLED AGAINST US ALL BY DISEASE AND DISABILITY.**

**⁴³
SOME ~~40~~ MILLION AMERICANS STILL SMOKE, SO OUR EDUCATION
CAMPAIGNS AND OUR SELF-HELP GROUPS MUST CONTINUE
THEIR GOOD WORK.**

**WE MUST GUARD AGAINST COMPLACENCY, AND INTENSIFY OUR
EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE THE GREATEST CAUSE OF PREVENTABLE
DISEASE AND DEATH AFFLICTING OUR SOCIETY.**

AND THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY HAS NOT GIVEN UP.

**I DOUBT THAT YOU CAN FIND A MORE HEAVY-HANDED, OBTUSE,
IMPOLITIC, AND UNTRUTHFUL GROUP OF CORPORATIONS
ANYWHERE IN THE GREAT PANOPLY OF AMERICAN PRIVATE
ENTERPRISE.**

**TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST, I DID NOT ASSUME THE POSITION OF
SURGEON GENERAL WITH THE CLEAR INTENTION OF BEING SO
PRO-ACTIVE AN OPPONENT OF TOBACCO AS I HAVE BEEN. BUT
THEN I BEGAN TO STUDY IN SOME DEPTH THE
INCONTROVERTIBLE TRUTHS ABOUT THE HEALTH HAZARDS OF
SMOKING.**

**AND I MUST TELL YOU THAT I WAS AT FIRST DUMBFOUNDED AND
THEN PLAINLY FURIOUS AT THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY FOR
ATTEMPTING TO OBFUSCATE AND TRIVIALIZE THIS
EXTRAORDINARILY IMPORTANT PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION.**

**HOW COULD THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY DARE TO DISMISS AS
UNFOUNDED AND UNPROVEN THE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR
CONNECTION BETWEEN SMOKING AND HEART DISEASE ...
BETWEEN SMOKING AND DEATHS FROM STROKE ... BETWEEN
SMOKING AND CANCER OF THE LUNG, THE MOUTH, THE
ESOPHAGUS, AND OF THE STOMACH ... AND BETWEEN SMOKING
AND A DOZEN OR MORE SERIOUS, DEBILITATING, EXHAUSTING,
EXPENSIVE, AND HUMILIATING DISEASES?**

HOW COULD THEY DARE TO DO THAT? I WONDERED.

THE ANSWER WAS ... THEY JUST DID.

**AND THEY FLAUNTED THEIR ABILITY TO BUY THEIR WAY INTO
THE MARKETPLACE OF IDEAS AND POLLUTE IT WITH THEIR
FALSE AND DEADLY INFORMATION.**

**I DO NOT BELIEVE THE UNITED STATES WILL EVER AGAIN BE A
GOOD MARKET FOR TOBACCO PRODUCTS. THE CURVE IS GOING
DOWN AND ACCELERATING.**

**BUT IF WE FEEL GOOD BECAUSE WE HAVE BEATEN THE
CIGARETTE INDUSTRY ON ITS OWN HOME TURF ... WE MUST
REALIZE THAT WE'VE DRIVEN THEM TO SCOUR THE REST OF THE
EARTH FOR NEW VICTIMS.**

**WHILE RECENT STATISTICS BRING US THE GOOD NEWS THAT
SMOKING IN THE UNITED STATES DROPPED ANOTHER 5% IN 1989,
WE ARE SADDENED AND OUTRAGED THAT AMERICAN TOBACCO
EXPORTS ROSE 20% LAST YEAR.**

**IN 1989 AMERICAN COMPANIES MADE 600 BILLION CIGARETTES;
100 BILLION OF THOSE CIGARETTES WENT OVERSEAS, OVER HALF
TO THE FAR EAST.**

**THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY -- AS YOU ALL KNOW, I AM SURE -- HAS
TARGETED THE LESS DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
OF THE WORLD AS THEIR MOST PROMISING MARKETS FOR THE
1990s.**

**AS A RESULT, THOSE NATIONS ARE NOW BEGINNING TO
EXPERIENCE THE SAME RISE IN SMOKING-RELATED DISEASES
THAT WE EXPERIENCED A GENERATION AGO ... HEART DISEASE,
STROKE, AND CANCER OF THE LUNG, MOUTH, ESOPHAGUS, AND
STOMACH.**

**AS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN I AM APPALLED BY THIS CORPORATE
BEHAVIOR OF AMERICAN COMPANIES AND, FURTHER, I AM
SHOCKED BY THE OUR OWN GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT OF SUCH
BEHAVIOR.**

**THIS EXPORT OF DEATH AND DISEASE HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT
WITH THE SUPPORT OF OUR TRADE REPRESENTATIVES, OUR
STATE DEPARTMENT, OUR COMMERCE DEPARTMENT, AND OUR
AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT.**

IT'S NOT A VERY PRETTY STORY. BUT THERE IT IS.

**LAST FALL, IN MY LAST OFFICIAL ACT AS SURGEON GENERAL, I
WAS ONE OF MORE THAN 30 WITNESSES AT A PUBLIC HEARING
ON INVESTIGATION INITIATED UNDER SEC. 302 OF THE TRADE
ACT OF 1974.**

I MADE MY POINT, AND CONCLUDED BY SAYING,

**"IT IS THE HEIGHT OF HYPOCRISY FOR THE UNITED STATES,
IN OUR WAR AGAINST DRUGS, TO DEMAND THAT FOREIGN
NATIONS TAKE STEPS TO STOP THE EXPORT OF COCAINE TO
OUR COUNTRY WHILE AT THE SAME TIME WE EXPORT NICOTINE,
A DRUG JUST AS ADDICTIVE AS COCAINE TO THE REST OF
THE WORLD."**

THIS NICOTINE DRUG CARTEL, THE TRANS-NATIONAL TOBACCO COMPANIES TRAVEL FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY WITH A GREAT DEAL OF CASH --NOT CREDITS, NOT PROMISES, BUT HARD, COLD CASH. THEREFORE IT IS VERY DIFFICULT FOR ANY GOVERNMENT STRUGGLING TO GET ITS ECONOMY IN ORDER TO TURN AWAY SUCH WELL-PAYING GUESTS.

THESE COMPANIES BUILD FACTORIES AND EMPLOY MANY PEOPLE. THEY SPEND LARGE SUMS ON ADVERTISING AND SPECIAL EVENTS. IN SOME AREAS THEY VIRTUALLY SUBSIDIZE THE MEDIA.

**IN MY VIEW THE SEVEN MAJOR TRANS-NATIONAL TOBACCO
COMPANIES --FOUR AMERICAN AND THREE BRITISH-- ARE
TOGETHER THE VERY MODEL OF A COLONIAL POWER. THEY
OSTENTATIOUSLY PUMPING LARGE AMOUNTS OF MONEY INTO
THE ECONOMIES OF A POOR NATION, ONLY TO EXACT LARGER
SUMS OF WEALTH IN THE FORM OF CROPS, MANUFACTURED
GOODS, OR CASH.**

**UNFORTUNATELY THESE COMPANIES ALSO EXTRACT THE
PHYSICAL HEALTH OF THE PEOPLE OF EVERY COUNTRY THEY
COLONIZE. YOU CAN SEE IT IN THE RISING MORBIDITY AND
MORTALITY RATES FROM WESTERN SMOKING-RELATED
DISEASES.**

**THE ALARMING THING ABOUT THIS HABIT OF CIGARETTE
SMOKING IS THAT, WHEN IT INVADES A NEW MARKET, IT DOES
SO WITH IMMENSE SPEED AND IMPACT.**

ACCORDING TO THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, BETWEEN 1971 AND 1981 CIGARETTE CONSUMPTION INCREASED IN ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA AT A RATE 30 PERCENT AHEAD OF THE RATE OF POPULATION INCREASE ... IN AFRICA, IT ROSE 77 PERCENT AHEAD OF THE RISE IN POPULATION.

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, FOR EXAMPLE, REPORTED THAT 90 PERCENT OF ITS MEN SMOKE ... PAPUA NEW GUINEA REPORTED THAT 85 PERCENT OF ITS MEN NOW SMOKE ... THE PHILIPPINES, 78 PERCENT ... AND SO ON.

W.H.O. IS DOING A GOOD JOB!

WHEN DR HIROSHI NAKAJIMA, D-G-OF W.H.O. ADDRESSED THE 7TH WORLD CONFERENCE ON SMOKING AND HEALTH (AND HOW I REGRETTED THE INTRUSION OF TV IN MY PLANS TO BE THERE), HE APPEALED TO NATIONAL AUTHORITIES AND ALL CONCERNED - AT ALL LEVELS - TO JOIN FORCES IN A SWEEPING ~~OFFENSIVE~~ ^{OFFENSIVE} AIMED ³⁵ AT ECONOMIC TOBACCO AS A MAJOR THREAT TO THE HEALTH OF FUTURE GENERATIONS - * WE SHOULD JOIN NAKAJIMA

AND LISTEN CAREFULLY TO THIS: IN CHINA, WHERE COUPLES ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE ONLY 1 CHILD PER FAMILY, THERE ARE AT THIS MOMENT AN ESTIMATED 50,000,000 CHILDREN WHO WILL DIE PREMATURELY FROM SMOKING.

THE RECENT NEWS THAT IN 15 ASIAN COUNTRIES COMMUNICABLE DISEASE WAS NO LONGER THE NUMBER ONE PUBLIC HEALTH MENACE WAS NOT REALLY GOOD NEWS.

WHY?

BECAUSE IN THOSE ASIAN COUNTRIES TODAY, THE TOP THREE CAUSES OF DEATH ARE -- CAN YOU GUESS? -- THE SAME THREE SMOKING-RELATED CAUSES OF DEATH THAT PREVAIL HERE IN THE UNITED STATES: HEART DISEASE, CANCER, AND STROKE.

**IN OTHER WORDS, THE TOBACCO EPIDEMIC AND ITS LETHAL
CONSEQUENCES HAVE HIT ASIA ... AND -- THANKS TO OUR OWN
CIGARETTE INDUSTRY -- HAVE HIT ASIA HARD.**

**AND HERE'S WHERE WE DESERVE TO SQUIRM IN SHAME -- IN 10
OF 15 ASIAN COUNTRIES, AMERICAN CIGARETTES WERE THE
MOST COMMON KIND IMPORTED.**

**BUT THOSE AMERICAN CIGARETTES ARE A LITTLE DIFFERENT
OVERSEAS: FOR ONE THING, THEY DON'T CARRY THE SURGEON
GENERAL'S WARNING. AND FOR ANOTHER, MANY AMERICAN
CIGARETTES MANUFACTURED FOR EXPORT HAVE A HIGHER TAR
CONTENT AND ARE, THEREFORE, EVEN MORE DANGEROUS THAN
THE LOWER-TAR, FULLY-LABELLED PRODUCTS SOLD HERE IN
THE UNITED STATES.**

WE ALL KNOW THAT DR. JAMES MASON - ASIT -
 DID NOT TESTIFY BEFORE A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE
 LAST WEEK,
 ON THE EXPORT OF TOBACCO, HE STILL BELIEVES
 WHAT HE SAID IN PERIT, EARLIER THIS
 YEAR.

YESTERDAY - ON FIRE THE NATION - TIME SEC '7
 AS HE SAID, THERE
 ORH. H.S. SAID, IT WAS A TRADE ISSUE
 NOT A HEALTH ISSUE. WHAT A SORRY
 STATE OF AFFAIRS.

HAVE WE TAKEN A CUE FROM THE
 TOBACCO COMPANIES? WILL WE USE
 THEIR DOUBLE-SPEAK? IT SEEMS TO
 ME, IF WE CAN REFUSE TO EXPORT
 TO SOME COUNTRIES
 WEAPONS, WE CAN ALLOW A
 DEVELOPING NATION TO REFUSE TO IMPORT TOBACCO.

NOW, LET ME MAKE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I JUST SAID.

I SAID THAT SOME AMERICAN CIGARETTE MANUFACTURERS -- AS

KNOWLEDGE-ABLE AS I AM, CONCERNING THE HEALTH RISKS OF

SMOKING -- ^{PL} KNOWINGLY PRODUCE A MORE HARMFUL

CIGARETTE FOR EXPORT THAN THEY PRODUCE FOR DOMESTIC

CONSUMPTION. ^{TE} I AM EMBARRASSED AS AN
AMERICAN - AND I KNOW THERE ARE MILLIONS OF
DECENT FOLKS WHO FEEL THE SAME WAY.

OUR EXPORT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS IS A MORAL OUTRAGE,

↓
NOT ONLY

~~AND~~ IT IS ALSO FOOLISH.

WE MUST CONVINCE OUR GOVERNMENT THAT THERE IS NO
SENSE IN PLANNING FOR THE LONG-TERM ECONOMIC HEALTH
OF A FOREIGN SOCIETY, ~~AND~~ PROVIDING THAT SOCIETY WITH
FOREIGN AID ~~ON THE ONE HAND~~, IF THE PHYSICAL HEALTH OF
THE PEOPLE OF THAT SOCIETY IS FUNDAMENTALLY
ENDANGERED DURING THAT SAME LONG TERM.

AGAINST THIS INTERNATIONAL OFFENSIVE OF THE TOBACCO
FIRMS

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS FIGHTING BACK, EVEN
THOUGH THEIR RESOURCES ARE SLIGHT.

**THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION IS TO BE CONGRATULATED
FOR CONFRONTING HEAD-ON THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY'S BRAZEN
CHALLENGE TO THE PHYSICAL WELL-BEING OF MILLIONS UPON
MILLIONS OF THE WORLD'S MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN.**

**THE CIGARETTE SMOKING EPIDEMIC BEING WHAT IT IS -- A
CROSS BETWEEN PUBLIC HEALTH AND INTERNATIONAL
COMMERCE -- WE FIND, COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY, THAT THE
STRONGEST OPPONENTS ARE OFTEN CONSUMERS AS WELL AS
PHYSICIANS.**

IN FACT, THE I.O.C.U., OR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF CONSUMERS UNIONS -- NOT A U.N. GROUP, BY THE WAY -- HAS A SEPARATE ANTI-SMOKING SUB-GROUP THAT GOES BY THE NAME OF "ACTION GROUPS TO HALT THE ADVERTISING AND SPONSORSHIP OF TOBACCO" -- OR "AGHAST."

ONE OF "AGHAST'S" KEY ACTIVITIES IS TO SUPPORT THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION'S ANNUAL "WORLD NO-TOBACCO DAY". AFFILIATED MEMBERS OF "AGHAST" -- MOSTLY NATIONAL CONSUMER COUNCILS -- HAVE HAD ROUSING AND SUCCESSFUL "NO SMOKING DAYS" IN PLACES LIKE FIJI, HONG KONG, INDIA, MALAYSIA, AND THAILAND.

**IF THIS SOUNDS SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE OUR OWN "GREAT
AMERICAN SMOKE-OUT," WHICH WE SPONSOR HERE EVERY YEAR
IN NOVEMBER, THAT'S BECAUSE IT IS.
AND I'M PLEASED TO SAY THAT OUR P.H.S. OFFICE ON SMOKING
AND HEALTH HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH SPREADING
THE IDEA TO OUR FRIENDS OVERSEAS.**

**THE IDEA OF A SMOKE-FREE SOCIETY IS GETTING SERIOUS
CONSIDERATION IN ISRAEL AND GREAT BRITAIN, FOR EXAMPLE.
I'VE TRAVELED TO BOTH COUNTRIES TO BE PART OF THE
EFFORT.**

**BUT SO FAR THESE EFFORTS ARE TOO SMALL TO BLUNT THE
TOBACCO OFFENSIVE. THEY ARE TOO WEAK TO LOOSEN
TOBACCO'S ECONOMIC GRIP ON THE WORLD.**

SO, WHAT CAN WE DO?

**I'M SURE THAT IN THE SESSIONS TO FOLLOW, YOU WILL HEAR
AND THEN DISCUSS A NUMBER OF VERY SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS.**

I'LL OFFER JUST A FEW.

**OUR CONFERENCE THEME RECOGNIZES THE GLOBAL
CHARACTER OF THE STRUGGLE AGAINST SMOKING AND THE
POWER OF THE TOBACCO INTERESTS.**

**WE AMERICANS MUST CONDUCT THE BATTLE ON THE HOME
FRONT AS WELL AS OVERSEAS.**

**HERE AT HOME, WHILE WE WORK THROUGH THE LEGISLATIVE
AND REGULATORY PROCESS TO CHANGE AMERICAN TRADE
POLICIES, WE MUST CONTINUE THE ECONOMIC PRESSURE
AGAINST THE TOBACCO COMPANIES IN THE UNITED STATES.**

**EVEN THOUGH THE TIDE IS RUNNING AGAINST THEM, WE
CANNOT GIVE THEM A RESPITE.**

**WE MUST CONTINUE THE MOMENTUM TOWARD A SMOKE-FREE
SOCIETY BY THE YEAR 2000.**

**OUR EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS ARE SUCCESSFUL, AND THEY MUST
BE EXPANDED.**

**WE MUST TARGET INDIVIDUAL ISSUES, FOCUS OUR EFFORTS, AND
PREVAIL.**

**IN SOME CRITICAL AREAS THERE IS STILL LITTLE MORE THAN
LIP SERVICE PAID TO STOPPING SMOKING.**

**FOR EXAMPLE, MEDICAL SCHOOL CURRICULA SPEND TOO
LITTLE TIME ON ADDICTION AND THE WAYS THAT DOCTORS CAN
TEACH THEIR PATIENTS HOW TO STOP SMOKING.**

**THE SAD FACT IS PROBABLY ONE HALF THE DOCTORS IN
AMERICA FAIL TO PROVIDE ADVICE AGAINST SMOKING, EVEN
THOUGH WE KNOW THAT A DOCTOR'S ADVICE IS THE SINGLE
MOST EFFECTIVE STIMULUS TO STOP SMOKING.**

THERE IS NO MONETARY INCENTIVE FOR PHYSICIANS TO TREAT SMOKING. ALTHOUGH STATES REQUIRE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG TREATMENT, NO STATE OFFERS COVERAGE FOR NICOTINE CESSATION PROGRAMS, EVEN THOUGH THE HEALTH COST OF NICOTINE ADDICTION IS MUCH HIGHER.

FOLLOWING THE SURGEON GENERAL'S REPORT OF 1988, THERE WAS CLEAR EVIDENCE OF THE SKYROCKETING COST OF HEALTH CARE, AND YET THE HEALTH INSURANCE INDUSTRY HAS RESPONDED LIKE NERO.

THEY SAY THEY USUALLY DON'T COVER PREVENTIVE PROGRAMS.

**WHAT SENSE DOES IT MAKE TO SPEND \$150,000 ON THE
TERMINAL CANCER ILLNESS OF ONE OF THEIR INSURED, BUT
NOT BE WILLING TO FORK OVER ABOUT \$200 TO GET THE SPOUSE
OF THAT PERSON TO STOP SMOKING AND PREVENT THE SAME
DISEASE DOWN THE ROAD?**

**WITH OVER 90% OF THE SMOKERS WANTING TO QUIT, IT IS AN
OUTRAGE THAT THERE IS NOT LEGISLATION REQUIRING
REIMBURSEMENT FOR APPROVED SMOKING CESSATION
PROGRAMS.**

**WE ALSO NEED TO WEAKEN THE INTERNATIONAL TOBACCO
INDUSTRY BY ELIMINATING CIGARETTE ADVERTISING, HERE AND
ABROAD.**

**THE ADS HAVE BEEN BANNED FROM AMERICAN TELEVISION,
THANK GOD, --ALTHOUGH THEY ARE SNEAKING BACK THROUGH
AND TOBACCO-SPONSORED SPORTS EVENTS
VIDEOS-~~^~~ BUT CIGARETTE ADVERTISING STILL ASSAULTS OUR
SOCIETY IN PRINT AND BILLBOARDS.**

**THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY SPENDS \$4,000 PER MINUTE ON
PROMOTION (\$2.5 BILLION A YEAR). —**

**ONLY THE GROTESQUE ECONOMIC POWER OF THE
INTERNATIONAL TOBACCO COMPANIES CAN SUSTAIN THIS
OUTRAGE, AS THEY USE ECONOMIC BLACKMAIL TO INTIMIDATE
PUBLISHERS AND GOVERNMENTS.**

**I AM PARTICULARLY DISTURBED BY CIGARETTE ADVERTISING
THAT TARGETS VULNERABLE GROUPS WITHIN OUR POPULATION
AND ABROAD.**

**HERE IN AMERICA THE CIGARETTE ADVERTISERS HAVE SET
THEIR SIGHTS ON YOUNG PEOPLE, WOMEN, AND MINORITIES.**

**CIGARETTE FIRMS MANIPULATE MINORITIES, WOMEN, AND
YOUNG PEOPLE BECAUSE THESE PEOPLE HAVE THE STRONGEST
ASPIRATIONS TO CHANGE THEIR STATUS.**

SO THESE ADS ASSOCIATE SMOKING WITH MAKING IT...

**THEY ASSOCIATE SMOKING WITH A HIGHER ECONOMIC STATUS
(WHEN REALLY HIGHER INCOME GROUPS ARE NOW SMOKING
LESS).**

**WE KNOW THAT THOSE WITH MORE EDUCATION TEND TO QUIT
MORE READILY. "THE MORE YOU KNOW, THE LESS YOU SMOKE."
BUT TOBACCO ADVERTISERS ASSOCIATE SMOKING --CONTRARY
TO ALL EVIDENCE-- WITH ROBUST ACTIVITY, ATHLETICS, SOCIAL
ACCEPTABILITY, BUSINESS AND SEXUAL SUCCESS, OUTDOOR
LEISURE, AND EVEN GOOD HEALTH.**

**ONE OF THE MORE OUTRAGEOUS ADVERTISING SLOGANS IS ONE
CIGARETTE COMPANY'S "ALIVE WITH PLEASURE" THEME.**

**THIS IS CLEARLY AN EFFORT TO UNDERMINE THE SURGEON
GENERAL'S WARNING ON EACH PACK.**

**TRUTH IN ADVERTISING SHOULD REQUIRE, NOT "ALIVE WITH
PLEASURE", BUT "DYING IN AGONY".**

IN THE ADVERTISING WARS YOU HEAR A LOT ABOUT PROOF.

THE TOBACCO COMPANIES SAY THAT IT HAS NOT BEEN PROVEN

THAT ADVERTISING INCREASES CIGARETTE SMOKING.

OF COURSE, THE COMPLEXITY OF THIS ISSUE OF HUMAN

BEHAVIOR WILL PROBABLY PRECLUDE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A

SCIENTIFIC PROOF OF A CAUSAL LINK.

BUT TO MY MIND THE BURDEN OF PROOF SHOULD BE ON THE

TOBACCO INDUSTRY TO SHOW THAT ADVERTISING DOES NOT

INCREASE CONSUMPTION OF A PRODUCT THAT WE KNOW LEADS

TO DEATH WHEN USED AS INTENDED.

IN THE 1850s JOHN SNOW ENDED THE CHOLERA EPIDEMIC IN LONDON BY REMOVING THE HANDLE OF THE BROAD STREET WATER PUMP, 30 YEARS BEFORE THE BACTERIUM CAUSING CHOLERA WAS DISCOVERED.

FORTUNATELY HE DID NOT NEED TO CONTEND WITH A CHOLERA INSTITUTE THAT DEMANDED THE PUMP KEEP WORKING UNTIL IT WAS PROVEN THAT WATER FROM THE PUMP WAS CAUSING THE CHOLERA.

**FOR ALL THEIR TALK ABOUT "FREEDOM", TOBACCO INTERESTS
ARE GREAT ENEMIES OF FREEDOM.**

**FAR FROM BELIEVING IN FREE SPEECH, TOBACCO ADVERTISERS
USE THEIR ECONOMIC CLOUT TO FORCE PUBLISHERS NOT TO
PRINT ARTICLES ABOUT THE REAL CONSEQUENCES OF SMOKING.**

**CIGARETTE ADVERTISING, FAR FROM ALLOWING FREE CHOICE,
ACTUALLY UNDERMINES FREE CHOICE.**

NICOTINE ADDICTS DO NOT ENJOY FREE CHOICE.

**LET'S BE UP-FRONT ABOUT THE SPECIAL CHALLENGE FACING
TOBACCO ADVERTISERS:**

**MOST PEOPLE WHO USE THEIR PRODUCT WOULD RATHER NOT
USE IT.**

AS MANY AS 90% WISH TO QUIT.

**MANY TOUGH IT OUT, BREAK THEIR ADDICTION, AND SUCCEED IN
QUITTING.**

**THE ADVERTISERS NEED TO REPLENISH THE DIMINISHING
SUPPLY OF TOBACCO USERS:**

REMEMBER THOSE 1,000 SMOKERS WHO DIE EVERY DAY.

**ANOTHER ISSUE OF PUBLIC POLICY WHERE WE CAN ATTACK THE
TOBACCO INDUSTRY CONCERNS CIGARETTE VENDING MACHINES.**

**HERE IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE CODDLED CIGARETTE
COMPANIES.**

**IT IS ILLEGAL TO SELL BOTH ALCOHOL AND CIGARETTES TO
MINORS. THAT IS BECAUSE ALCOHOL AND NICOTINE ARE THE
TWO MAJOR LEGAL ADDICTING DRUGS IN OUR SOCIETY.**

**WE WOULD NEVER TOLERATE SELLING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
IN VENDING MACHINES, BUT SOMEHOW WE TOLERATE
CIGARETTE VENDING MACHINES.**

**IT IS SAD EVIDENCE OF OUR FAILURE TO TAKE SERIOUSLY THE
DANGERS OF SELLING THIS ADDICTING DRUG NICOTINE TO
MINORS.**

**THE CIGARETTE VENDING MACHINES SHOULD BE THE NEXT
TARGET IN THE CRUSADE AGAINST SMOKING.**

**EVEN AS WE ARE CONCERNED TODAY ABOUT THE
INTERNATIONAL ASPECT OF TOBACCO, I RAISE THESE AMERICAN
ISSUES BECAUSE IF WE FOCUS OUR ENERGY ON SPECIFIC ISSUES,
IF WE MARSHALL OUR GROWING STRENGTH, WE CAN CHOOSE
OUR BATTLES, AND WE WIN THEM ONE BY ONE.**

**FINALLY, I WANT TO STRESS THE POWER OF OUR GREATEST
WEAPON. IT MAY SEEM A DAUNTING TASK TO ATTEMPT TO
CHANGE THE DEEPLY ENTRENCHED AND SINISTER AMERICAN
TRADE POLICIES THAT PROMOTE TOBACCO EXPORTS.**

**IT MAY SEEM BEYOND OUR ABILITY TO INFLUENCE FOREIGN
GOVERNMENTS WHO ARE DESPERATE FOR AMERICAN
INVESTMENT AND CASH.**

**THESE STRUGGLES WILL TAKE POLITICAL ACUMEN BOTH HERE
AND ABROAD.**

**BUT IT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED, BOTH HERE AND ABROAD, IF WE
MOBILIZE THE POPULAR RESOURCES THAT CAN BE TAPPED BY
MORAL SUASION.**

**WHEN I WAS YOUR SURGEON GENERAL, I FREQUENTLY SAID
THAT I HAD NEITHER POWER NOR BUDGET.**

**THAT WAS CERTAINLY TRUE, FOR I HAD ONLY A TINY STAFF AND -
-IN WASHINGTON TERMS-- A TINY BUDGET, ENOUGH TO KEEP US
IN PAPER CLIPS AND PHOTOCOPIES.**

**BUT I THINK I WAS ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH A LARGE AGENDA
SOLELY THROUGH THE POWER OF MORAL SUASION.**

**IN THE RIGHT HANDS, AND IN ENOUGH HANDS, MORAL SUASION
CAN OVERCOME OBDURATE BUREAUCRACIES, ENTRENCHED
ECONOMIC POWER, AND THE INCREASINGLY DESPERATE
INTERNATIONAL TOBACCO COMPANIES.**

**I MAY HAVE HUNG UP THE UNIFORM OF THE SURGEON GENERAL,

BUT I HAVEN'T RETIRED FROM THE FIGHT AGAINST SMOKING.**

**TOGETHER, WE CAN WIN IT, IN AMERICA, AND AROUND THE
WORLD.**

THANK YOU.

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IT IS SAD THAT THE ADMINISTRATION
HAS SILENCED DR. JAMES MASON. ON
SMOKING. WHAT HE SAID AT PERTH
IS WHAT HE BELIEVES.

I WAS ONCE TOLD NOT TO SPEAK
AGAINST TOBACCO ADUT. I POSTPONED
MY TESTIMONY A WEEK - BUT I SPOKE.
THE DIFFERENCE WAS THAT WHEN I
BECAME SC I SAID IF THE DATE
CAME WHEN I COULD NOT SAY WHAT
I BELIEVED OR HAD TO SAY
WHAT I DIDNT BELIEVE, I
WOULD RESIGN. I GUESS NO ONE
WANTED TO MAKE THAT BIG AN ISSUE ^{OF} IT

SANDRA KRISTOFF - ASST U.S.

TRADE REP FOR ASIA CALLED
THAILAND'S UNWILLINGNESS TO BE
INVADED BY AMERICAN TOBACCO
COMPANIES AND REPEAL THEIR
LAWS AGAINST CIGARETTE ADVERT-
ISING "DISCRIMINATION AGAINST
TOBACCO"

WE DISCRIMINATE IN THE US AGAINST
THE POOR, THE WORKING POOR, CHILDREN,
THE ELDERLY, BLACKS, HISPANICS
AND DWA. WHY CAN'T
THAILAND DISCRIMINATE AGAINST
AMERICAN TOBACCO CO.

ALL THAT'S AT STAKE IS A COUPLE
OF HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS FOR
A PA7 IMMORAL INDUSTRY.

ON BEHALF OF A LOT OF DECENT
AMERICANS I APPOGIZE TO THAILAND